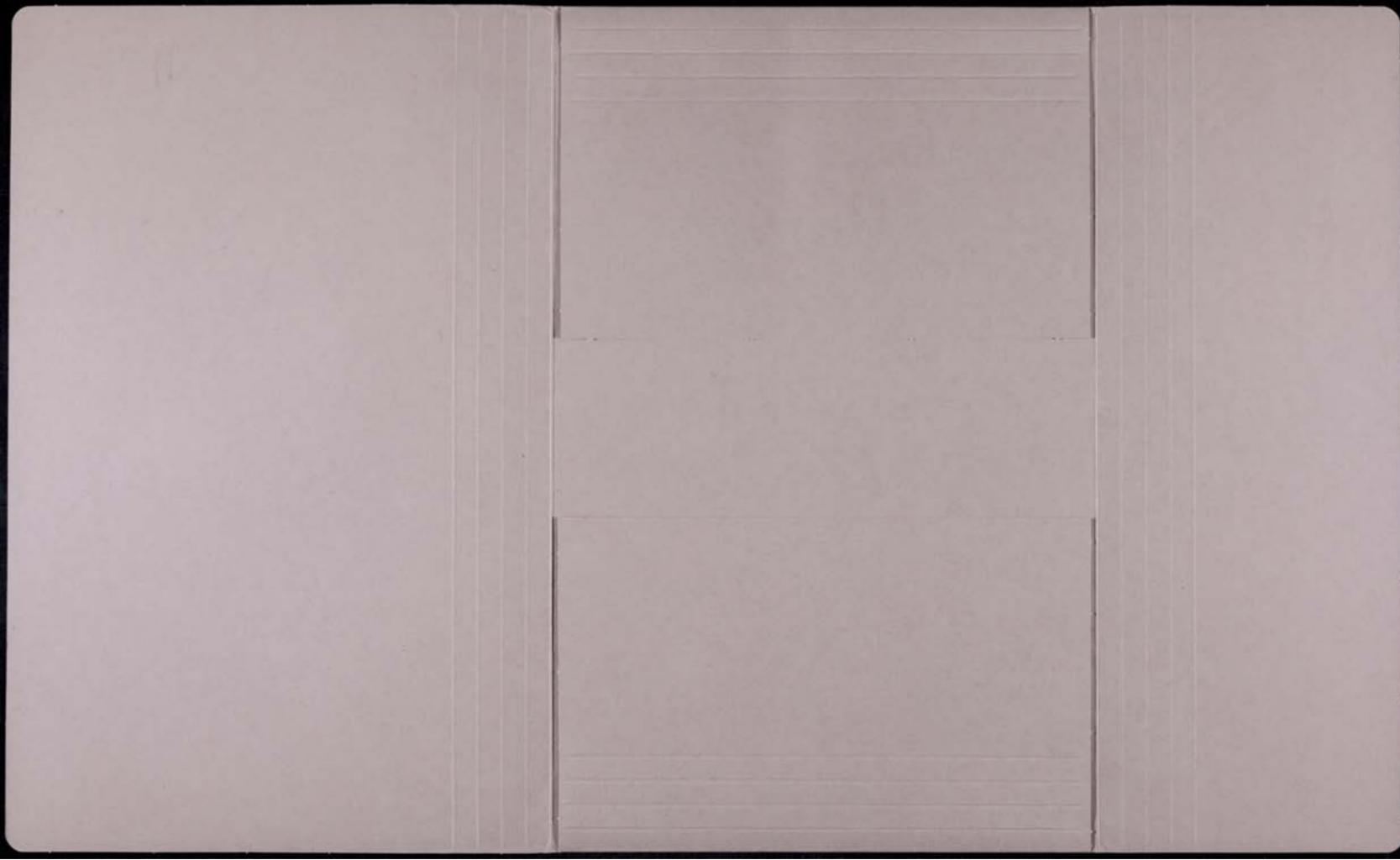


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V

NORTH AND EAST AFRICAN DEPT.

1965

SUDAN

VS 1821/4

FROM W. E. Stoker
Kampala.
Add: O. Griffiths,
Khartoum.

No. 177/1

Dated 16 May

Received 31 May.

(Outward Action)

SUBJECT: Report that the Committee on refugee
repatriation appointed by Govts. of Sudan and Uganda
has completed its work.

Encloses Copy of:

References and Relevant Papers:

-/3.

MINUTES

11/6.

(Printing Instructions)

190465

(Referred to Legal Adviser)

(Action completed)

(Main Indexed)

gdc
16/6/68

3/2/68

Edge

926/

British High Commission,
P.O. Box 2894,
KAMPALA

Ref : 177/1

16 May 1966



Refugee Repatriation

Further to my letter of 9 May, you may like to know that the committee appointed by the Governments of the Sudan and Uganda was last Wednesday reported to have completed its work in Uganda.

2. A statement issued here by the Ministry of Culture and Community Development said that a number of Sudanese refugees had asked to be repatriated and that a further appeal was being made for more refugees to enlist their names. (As you know, some refugees have already been repatriated).

3. The next meeting of the committee is reported to be taking place at the end of May (this time presumably in the Sudan) to finalize arrangements for the return of refugees.

4. I am copying this letter to Dick Posnett in the C.R.O.

(W.E. STOBER)

O. GRIFFITH, ESQ., M.V.O.,
BRITISH EMBASSY,
KHARTOUM



V

NORTH AND EAST AFRICAN DEPT.

1966

FROM FO. Minute
Mr Macrae

No.

Dated 22 August 1966

Received

31 August

(Outward Action)

SUDAN

V S 1821/5

SUBJECT: Sudanese refugees in Ethiopia.

VS 1821

Encloses Copy of :

References and Relevant Papers :

VS 1015/10
-143, -119

See MINUTES within

(Printing Instructions)

(Referred to Legal Adviser)

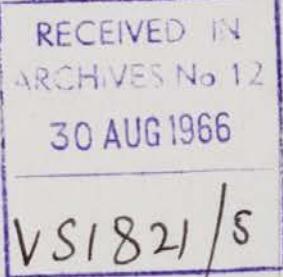
(Action
completed)

(Main Indexed)

RJD
2 Sept 1966

31/2/68

While speaking to Mr. Harris of Oxfam on the question of possible Oxfam help for the Southern Sudan Mr. Harris said that some time ago he had visited an Ethiopian camp and had seen one thousand Sudanese leave after having been offered repatriation by the Sudanese Government. Subsequently 300 of them had been shot up by bandits and the remaining 700 had returned to the Ethiopian camp in tatters with their tails between their legs. Mr. Harris ~~said~~ ^{replied} that if this is all that the Sudanese can do when they promise repatriation it leaves much to be desired.



Macrae

(J.E.C. Macrae)
22 August, 1966

Mr. Stinson

We spoke.

Mr. Stinson

Mr. Stinson

V

NORTH AND EAST AFRICAN DEPT.

CONFIDENTIAL

1966

FROM East Africa Dept
Commonwealth Office
to Mr. Shinson

No. 2-92/1

Dated 19 October 1966

Received

20 October 1966

(Outward Action)

SUDAN

V S 1821/6

SUBJECT: Sudanese offers of repatriation to refugee
students from the South in Uganda: students
who had been at secondary schools in the South could
return and continue their studies.

1821

Encloses Copy of: letter from
Minister Uganda Mr
Asprett C.O.

References and Relevant Papers:

-14, -13, -12
JM 1821/3 115 17
10

MINUTES

The final paragraphs about the differing approaches of
SARU & the ACF to the refugee problem are interesting.
But it is all far too long (and straight from the K.N.S. !)

J.D. 20/10

W.C. 26/10
J.R. D. Copy made 26/10.

(Printing Instructions)

(Referred to Legal Adviser)

(Action completed)	(Main Indexed)
RECD 28 Oct 1966 6/6	3/10/68

LAST PAPER
1967 FILE

VH 11/

CONFIDENTIAL

Enter

COMMONWEALTH RELATIONS OFFICE,
DOWNING STREET, LONDON, S.W.1.

19/10/1966

2 - 92/1

~~Mr. Hartland~~

To R. F. Stimson Esqre -

AS 19/10th

RECEIVED	IN	North	East African Dept.
ARMED 12			
20 OCT 1966			
VS1821	6		

With the Compliments

of

The East Africa Dept.

C.O.

CONFIDENTIAL.

British High Commission,
P.O. Box 2894,
KAMPALA, UGANDA

Ref : 2-92/1

13 October 1966

Uganda and the Southern Sudan

Anya Nya

JM 1821/3

Would you please refer to my letter (2-129/37/1) of 7 September about refugees in Uganda in which I mentioned, in paragraph 11, reports of incursions over the border into northern Uganda of members of Anya Nya, the Southern Sudanese rebel movement?

2. A report appeared in the local weekly, The People, of 17 September to the effect that earlier in the month a Uganda Army platoon had driven back into the Sudan a band of about 250 armed guerilla fighters belonging to Anya Nya who had crossed the border into Uganda. I enclose a copy of this newspaper report. You will see that a Ugandan Defence Ministry official is stated to have confirmed that the story was "essentially correct". We have heard nothing more of the incident, but a remark made the other day at a traditional function in Madi District by the Lopirigo (Constitutional Head of Madi) suggests that the report of the Anya Nya incursion may well be true, and tends to confirm one's suspicion that this was not in any case the first example of unwelcome Anya Nya activity on the Uganda side of the border: the Lopirigo (who was himself apparently manhandled, along with other Ugandans in Moyo, by the Uganda Army during their recent witchhunt for refugees in that area: see paragraph 9 of my letter under reference) was reported as saying (in a speech on the third anniversary of his assumption of office) that his listeners (the people of Moyo) should feel secure from further threats from the Anya Nya because "the Uganda Government were prepared to stop further violation of Uganda's territorial integrity". In the light of the stories of the Uganda Army's behaviour in Moyo reported in my letter under reference, I am inclined to doubt that the presence of the Uganda Army in the Moyo area to prevent further incursions by the Anya Nya would be very much less of a threat to the well-being of the people of that town than the Anya Nya themselves: and I would not be surprised if the Lopirigo himself privately thinks the same thing!

/Refugees.....

R.N. Posnett, Esq., O.B.E.,
East Africa Department,
Commonwealth Office,
LONDON, S.W.1.

Refugees

3. You may also like to know, in connection with Sudanese refugees in Uganda, that the Sudanese Embassy here announced in late September details of arrangements, agreed between the Sudanese Refugee Repatriation Committee and the Sudanese Ministry of Education, for the repatriation of Sudanese students who entered "East Africa" as refugees. These arrangements clearly apply primarily to Uganda, where there are far more Sudanese refugees than in Kenya or Tanzania, the other countries presumably covered by the term "East Africa". A statement from the Embassy said that all Sudanese students who had previously been studying at secondary schools in the Sudan and who now wished to return home, would be automatically accepted in their respective schools as "non-registered students": they could leave Uganda at any time to return to their former schools in the Sudan, and at the beginning of the next academic year, they would finally be accepted for the classes for which they qualified by examination. Separate arrangements exist for intermediate students. Those who had been in their fourth year in schools in the South could go at once to Malakal (Upper Nile) where they would be able to sit entry examinations for the Rumbek (Bahr El Ghazal) and Juba (Equatoria) schools; they would also sit for the final intermediate school examination. Students who had been studying in the South according to the northern schools' syllabus were invited to go at once to Renk (in the north of Upper Nile) where they could immediately join classes. All other intermediate students, "academic or technical", who had followed the southern schools' syllabus could go to Juba, where they could join intermediate and technical schools. The statement went on to explain that although Sudanese students in East Africa might apply to the school and class in the Sudan corresponding to their school or class in East Africa, they might have to sit for a qualifying examination as the standards between the Sudan and East Africa might vary. It also said that the Sudanese Embassy would provide all facilities for students wishing to return to the Sudan and that, once home, those students whose schools were on vacation would be given assistance by local education officers.

4. All this looks quite reasonable on paper. But it remains to be seen how many Sudanese students in Uganda (of whom there must be quite a number, mostly, I gather, scattered among schools, particularly those where there is a missionary connection, in the northern areas of the country) will wish to take advantage of Khartoum's offer: certainly there has been no sign yet of its being taken up. It will surely remain difficult to convince Sudanese refugees here, (most, if not all of whom are from the South) that it is safe for them to return to their native areas (which seems to be the official Khartoum line) and that they have anything to gain, educationally or otherwise, by repatriation.

5. Meanwhile, as if to reinforce Khartoum's pleas, William Deng of the Sudan African National Union (SANU) was reported to have arrived here at the beginning of this month, at the invitation of the "Sudanese Peace Committee", to explain to Sudanese refugees in Uganda the need for them to return home. In a statement reported in the local press, Deng said

/that.....

that the personal safety and economic security of returning refugees had been guaranteed by the Government through the settlement system (he referred to the permanent Central Committee for the Resettlement of Refugees, which had been set up in Khartoum, with Southern members, and which operates a branch in Juba to receive returning refugees). He also mentioned (to add weight to his argument) that Government troops were under better control under Sayed Sadik Mahdi's new Government.

6. In an answering statement issued shortly afterwards, Mr. George Akumbek-Kwanai, described as the Information Secretary of the Azania Liberation Front (A.L.F.) claimed that it would be inadvisable for Sudanese refugees to return home whilst the unrest and military activity which had caused them to flee was till going on; he also claimed that his party supported the desire of the people of the South to have the constitutional status of the South defined by Northern, and Southern Nationalist Leaders before any elections were held; and maintained that the A.L.F. was not represented on the 12-man Constitutional Committee on the South set up by the last Round Table Conference, and did not recognise any work of the Committee carried out after its "expiry" in June, 1965.

7. It now remains to be seen what, if anything, new will emerge from the Convention on Refugees which the O.A.U. refugee sub-committee has been drafting in Addis Ababa, and which is to be submitted to the O.A.U. for approval at its meeting in November (the drafting session was attended by a Uganda delegation headed by Dr. Katongole, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Culture and Community Development, in his capacity as Director of Refugees in Uganda). One cannot help feeling that in this context it is deeds and not words that count. A recent editorial in the Uganda Argus was surely right in suggesting that the (Sudanese) refugee problem in which "Uganda has an obvious interest in seeing ... solved" would remain until peace and stability returned to the Southern Sudan; and in pinpointing the difficulty that there were still some Southern politicians "intensely suspicious of all moves from Khartoum" and that despite the reported improvement of the military situation in the Southern Sudan, the history of the last eleven years had shown how easily fighting could flare up after an apparent period of calm.

... 8. I enclose an extra copy of this letter (with enclosure) which you may like to pass to the Foreign Office. Copies also go to Griffith in Khartoum (with enclosure) and Miss Spencer in Nairobi (without enclosure).

(W.E. STOBER)

Y**

THE PEOPLE 17/9/66

'Only genuine refugees welcome'

"ANYANYA" terrorist activities in the Moyo, West Madi area culminated last week in a Uganda Army platoon's driving a band of the Sudanese guerrilla fighters back into the Sudan.

The "Anyanya" group, numbering about 250 and armed with automatic weapons, suffered the only casualties in the fierce skirmish.

Trouble has been brewing around Moyo for some time. "Anyanya" operatives have threatened to assassinate Moyo-based Ugandan officials and local chiefs who were trying to prevent Sudanese refugee settlements in Uganda from becoming staging areas for terrorist raids in the Sudan.

PLANTED A FLAG

At least one chief is missing, believed to have been kidnapped. His fate is still unknown.

A 12-man Special Force and Police patrol investigating the problem area in early September were fired upon by the "Anyanya." Vastly outnumbered, the patrol retreated without harm while the Sudanese planted their red flag four miles inside the Uganda border.

In view of the serious security situation involving an international boundary, a Uganda Army platoon was dispatched to disperse the rebels. After the action their report came through: mission accomplished. No casualties.

SEVERELY DEALT WITH

Following Uganda Government policy, the Army unit gave up the chase at the border and did not enter Sudanese territory.

When asked to comment on the story, a Defence Ministry official confirmed that it was "essentially correct."

He went on to say that Government had the policy of welcoming legitimate refugees. But refugees who abused Uganda's hospitality by planning and implementing raids from Uganda soil would be dealt with severely.

"These people are no longer refugees," he continued, "they are political activists - and political activists will be sent back to their home countries."

